

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL867653669US

Applicant : Jayasenan Sundara Ganesh, et al.  
Application No. : to be assigned  
Filed : December 7, 2001  
Title : NETWORK SWITCHING DEVICE WITH FORWARDING  
DATABASE TABLES POPULATED BASED ON USE  
Docket No. : 47558/JEC/X2

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Post Office Box 7068  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068  
December 20, 2001

Commissioner:

Prior the examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 4, please insert the following section:

## CROSS-REFERENCE OF APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Serial No. 09/166,604, filed October 5, 1998, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

## REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are currently pending in this application. In the parent application, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Michels et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,616,144). The Examiner also rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Michels et al. in view of Rajan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,940,596). Applicant requests that Michels et al. be disqualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c).